THE M1NISETER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (d) According to information received from Coal Lndia Ltd. they have received complaints from Gujarat State Electricity Borad which complaints inter-alia pertain to size of coal etc. The percentage of despatches in respect of which complaints were received as against the total coal despatch to power houses of Gujarat during 1993-94 was 1.10%.

Indian coals generally are found inter-banded with layers of shale, stone etc. Inspite of the best efforts, it may not always be possible to fully segregate shales, stone etc. from coal in the process of mining and handling. However, coal companies are taking following steps to improve the quality of coal :

(i> An action plan for installation of feeder breakers and coal handling plants is being implemented to ensure that sized coal is supplied to the consumers.

(ii) Stones are being segregated at the time of loading of coal.

(iii) Slow moving picking belts are being provided in coal handling plants for picking up of shale and stone pieces.

(iv) Better supervision is being ensured at the time of loading to maintain quality of coal and developing quality con-ciousness among workers, supervisors and executives.

(v) Modification and modernisation of existing coking coal washeries.

(vi) Setting up of new washeries for washing of coking coal for use of steel plants.

(vii) Setting up of coal beneficiation pro-iects for supply of benificiated coal for some of the distant power stations located more than 1000 Kms from coalfields.

(viii) A legislation has also been enacted recently to permit beneficiation of coal by private parties.

Increasing coal prices by Singareni Colliery Company Ltd.

5279. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Singareni Colliery Company Limited (SCCL), a major coal public Sector Undertaking, has increased prices of its coal by an average of Rs. 30 per tonne with effect from 1st April, 1974;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for increase in prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that this price increase is not part of the normal increase recommended by Bureau for Industrial Costs and Prices; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (c) Yes Sir,

(b) and (d) Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. a joint venture of Govt, of Andhra Pradesh and the Govt, of India has been incurring losses due to deteriorating equity debt ratio, disturbed law and other situation and heavy interest burden.

Since the net worth of the company became negative a reference had to be made to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. BIFR, asked the Govt, of India and Govt, of Andhra Pradesh to formulate a turn-around package in order to rehabilitate the Company. Accordingly, *a,* package of measures was approved, by Govt, in March 1994.

As part of that package, Govt, have allowed the company a one time ad hoc increase of Rs. 30/- per tonne in" the selling price of coal w.e.f. 1-4-1994 over and above the price fixed in accordance with formula prescribed by Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices.

Production targets for C.C.L.

5280. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV :
CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production targets which were fixed for Central Coalfields Ltd. during the last three years and the extent to which these targets have been achieved; .

(b) the reasons for not achieving the fixed targets; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER,OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) (a) Coal production targets and actual achievement of production for last three years is given below :

(in million tonnes)

Year	Target	Production
1991-92	31.00	31.21
1992-93	32.00	32.42
1993-94	33.50	33.51

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

कच्चे कोयले की उत्पादन लागत में गिरावट

5281. **श्री गोपाल सिंह सोलंकी :**
श्री मूलचन्द मीणा

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान वास्तविक लागत की तुलना में कच्चे कोयले की उत्पादन लागत में गिरावट आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) : (क) प्रचलित कीमतों पर कोयले के उत्पादन की लागत में काफी समय से विभिन्न आयतों की लागत में वृद्धि के कारण वृद्धि हुई है । किन्तु कोल इण्डिया लि. ने सूचित किया है कि 1989-90 तथा 1992-93 के बीच जबकि उत्पादन की लागत में 26.3% की वृद्धि हुई है, थोक बिक्री मूल्य सूचकांक बढ़कर